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CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently Amended) [[In]] <u>Improved</u> spinal arthroplasty <u>apparatus</u>, the improvement comprising:

one or more bio-resorbable components <u>configured</u> to hold a vertebrae and a prosthetic or natural arthroplasty device in place until soft tissues surrounding the spine heal.

- 2. (Currently Amended) The improvement of claim 1, wherein the <u>bio-resorbable</u> components include a rod, plate, screw, or a combination thereof.
- 3. (Original) The improvement of claim 1, wherein the bio-resorbable components facilitate a limited degree of motion or mobility during or after healing.
- 4. (Original) The improvement of claim 3, wherein the limited degree of motion or mobility is controlled by the flexibility of the bioresorbable components.
- 5. (Currently Amended) The improvement of claim 4, wherein the flexibility of the <u>bioresorbable</u> components is due in part to the modulus of elasticity of the bioresorbable components.
- 6. (Currently Amended) The improvement of claim 4, wherein the flexibility of the <u>bioresorbable</u> components is due in part to the thickness or other physical attribute of the bioresorbable components.
- 7. (Currently Amended) The improvement of claim 3, wherein the limited degree of motion or mobility is controlled by the rate of resorbtion of the <u>bio-resorbable</u> components.
 - 8. (Original) The improvement of claim 1, wherein the arthroplasty device includes allograft.

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9. (New) The improvement of claim 1, wherein the arthroplasty device is an artificial intervertebral disc.